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5 April 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Progress Report on NSC 170/1 - Korea

I understand that the progress report from OCB on NSC 170/1--Korea, will be before the NSC on Thursday, April 8. A copy of that progress report is attached. There is also attached a summary CIA Annex. You will note that the principal actions for CIA related to informing ROK leaders of the U. S. position if they took unilateral action, and for obtaining prompt warning of any such action. The plans developed in the field relieved CIA of any responsibility for trying to prevent unilateral action on the part of the ROKs.

In view of the assurances given by Rhee, it was felt some time ago that no further action was necessary with respect to informing the ROK leaders of the U. S. position, and Mr. Cutler so advised the OCB. Since that time Rhee wrote the President a letter on March 6 giving notification that he might take unilateral action. This letter was answered on March 20. Mr. Cutler felt that since this exchange of letters somewhat changed the circumstances, the NSC should consider whether it was now appropriate to give wider warning to the ROK leaders of the U. S. position. It is for this reason that he asked to have the progress report on the agenda for April 8.

There is also attached to the summary CIA Annex a longer briefing memorandum which reports the CIA activities in greater detail. This is to assist you in answering questions or elaborating on the summary if you feel that is appropriate.

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SA/DCI/

Special Assistant to the Director

Attachments:

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